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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

LE, MIRANDA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2177

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PP4

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/715,981	LARUE, CHRIS	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Miranda Le	2177	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____    | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:

(e) the invention was described in

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Boothby et al. (US Patent No. 6,141,664).

Boothby anticipated independent claims 1, 14, 17, 23 by the following:

3. As per claims 1, Boothby teaches "receiving a first user input, the first user input selecting a first data item from the second dataset for inheritance into the first dataset" at col. 5, lines 5-37, Fig. 4A-Step 150;

"placing a first pointer in the first dataset, pointing to a first record in the second dataset that contains the first data item" at col. 6, lines 35-39;

"when processing data in the first dataset, using the first pointer to locate the first record in the second dataset, and including the first data item from the second dataset in the processing of data in the first dataset" at col. 5, lines 25-37, col. 6, lines 35-39.

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4. As per claim 14, Boothby teaches “processing the data in the first dataset that are native to the first dataset” at col. 5, lines 5-38;

“processing the data in the first dataset that are inherited from the second dataset and for which a local copy has not already been processed” at col. 5, lines 21-38;

“processing the data in the first dataset that are inherited from the third dataset and that have not already been processed during the processing of data that are inherited from the second dataset” at col. 8, lines 3-33.

5. As per claim 17, Boothby teaches “a plurality of native data in the first dataset” at col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 16;

“a first pointer in the first dataset, the first pointer pointing to a first data item in a second dataset to inherit the first data item from the second dataset into the first dataset on a record level” at col. 6, lines 35-39;

“a second pointer in the first dataset, the second pointer pointing to a third pointer in a third dataset, the third pointer pointing to a second data item in a fourth dataset to inherit the second data item from the third dataset into the first dataset on a record level, the second data item further being inherited from the fourth dataset into the third dataset on a record level” at col. 8, lines 3-33;

“a fourth pointer in the first dataset. the fourth pointer pointing to a fifth dataset to inherit the fifth dataset into the first dataset on a dataset level” at col. 10, lines 56-65,

“wherein, when the system processes data in the first dataset, the system processes data that is native to the first dataset, along with the first data item, the

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second data item and data from the fifth dataset” at col. 10, line 66 to col. 11, line 20.

6. As per claim 23, Boothby teaches “receiving a first user input, the first user input selecting a first data item from a first ancestor dataset for inheritance into the first dataset” at col. 5, lines 5-37;

“performing a first synchronization of at least a portion of the first dataset with at least a portion of a first alter--ego dataset, including sending a copy of the first data item to the first alter-ego dataset for inclusion in the first alter-ego dataset as a first  
30 alter-ego copy of the first data item” at col. 6, lines 35-67.

7. As per claim 2, Boothby teaches “receiving a second user input. the second user input indicating selected data items to be displayed” at col. 5, lines 5-37, Fig. 4A-Step 152;

“establishing a filter for identifying the selected data items to be displayed” at col. 6, lines 40-45;

“applying the filter to the first dataset” at col. 6, lines 46-56;

“applying the filter to the first data item, using the first pointer to locate the first data item” at col. 5, line 56 to col. 6, line 16;

“displaying data from the first dataset and from the first data item that satisfy the filter requirements” at col. 6, lines 57-67.

8. As per claim 3, Boothby teaches “receiving a third user input, the third user input indicating changes to be made to the first data item” see Fig. 4A-Step 153;

“creating a local copy of the first data item in the first dataset” at col. 7, lines 1-16;

“applying the user changes to the local copy of the first data item” at col. 6, lines 44-56.

9. As per claim 4, Boothby teaches “the step of retaining the first pointer, pointing to the first record in the second dataset” at col. 8, lines 3-33.

10. As per claim 5, Boothby teaches “when processing data in the first dataset, the method includes the local copy of the first data item in the processing of data in the first dataset” at col. 8, lines 52-56.

11. As per claim 6, Boothby teaches “receiving a fourth user input, the fourth user input selecting a third dataset and indicating that the entire third dataset is to be inherited into the first dataset” see Fig. 4A-Step 154;

“placing a second pointer in the first dataset, pointing to the third dataset” at col. 5, lines 25-37;

“when processing data in the first dataset, using the second pointer to locate the third dataset, and including the data in the third dataset in the processing of data in the first dataset” at col. 8, line 57 to col. 9, line 8.

12. As per claim 7, Boothby teaches “receiving a fifth user input, the fifth user input selecting a second data item from the second dataset for inheritance into the first dataset, wherein the second data item has been inherited from a fourth dataset into the second dataset, the second

dataset including a fourth pointer to a second record in the fourth dataset that contains the second data item” see Fig. 4A-Step 161;

“placing a third pointer in the first dataset, pointing to the fourth pointer in the second dataset” at col. 10, lines 21-38;

“when processing data in the first dataset, using the third pointer to locate the fourth pointer, using the fourth pointer to locate the second data item, and including the second data item from the fourth dataset in the processing of data in the first dataset” at col. 10, line 56 to col. 11, line 20.

13. As per claim 8, Boothby teaches “receiving a sixth user input, the sixth user input selecting the fourth dataset and indicating that the entire fourth dataset is to be inherited into the first dataset” see Fig. 4B-Step 167;

“placing a fifth pointer in the first dataset, pointing to the fourth dataset” at col. 13, lines 57-63;

“when processing data in the first dataset, using the fifth pointer to locate the fourth dataset, and including the data in the fourth dataset in the processing of data in the first dataset, but also detecting that the second data item has been inherited into the first dataset both through the second dataset and directly from the fourth dataset and avoiding processing the second data item a second time” at col. 13, line 64 to col. 14, line 20.

14. As per claim 9, Boothby teaches “a step of synchronizing the first dataset with an alter-ego dataset. including the first data item from the second dataset in the synchronization, so

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that after the synchronization the alter-ego dataset has a copy of the first data item from the second dataset” at col. 16, lines 1-45.

15. As per claim 10, Boothby teaches “a local copy of the first data item is stored in the first dataset prior to the synchronization with the alter-ego dataset” at col. 16, lines 30-45.

16. As per claim 11, Boothby teaches “receiving an update to the first data item from the alter-ego dataset during the synchronization” at col. 16, lines 1-14;

“entering the update from the alter-ego dataset into the local copy of the first data item” at col. 17, lines 1-9.

17. As per claim 12, Boothby teaches “receiving a seventh user input. the seventh user input indicating a change to be made to the first data item” at col. 17, lines 1-9, Fig. 4B-Step 172;

“applying the user change to the local copy of the first data item” at col. 15, lines 30-38;

“receiving an update to the first data item from the alter-ego dataset during the synchronization” at col. 16, lines 1-14;

“resolving conflicts between the update to the first data item from the alter-ego dataset and the user change received in the seventh user input” at col. 11, lines 21-28;

“entering the update from the alter-ego dataset into the local copy of the first data item and propagating the user change from the seventh user input to the alter-ego dataset as appropriate, based on the conflict resolution” at col. 16, lines 30-44, Fig. 20.



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18. As per claim 13, Boothby teaches “synchronizing the local copy of the first data item in the first dataset with the first data item in the second dataset simultaneously with the synchronization between the first dataset and the alter-ego dataset” at col. 17, lines 10-31;

“receiving an update to the first data item from the second dataset” at col. 15, lines 51-67;

“receiving an update to the first data item from the alter-ego dataset” at col. 16, lines 1-14;

“resolving conflicts between the updates to the first data item from the second dataset and the alter-ego dataset” at col. 22, lines 8-28;

“entering the updates into the first dataset and propagating the updates to the second dataset and the alter-ego dataset as appropriate, based on the conflict resolution” at col. 22, lines 38-59.

19. As per claim 15, Boothby teaches “the data in the first dataset further includes data that is inherited from the third dataset and that is modified locally, and the step of processing the data in the first dataset that are inherited from the third dataset excludes data for which a local copy has already been processed” at col. 10, lines 56-65.

20. As per claim 16, Boothby teaches “the processing of data in the first dataset includes displaying a portion of the data from the first dataset” at col. 5, lines 43-54.

21. As per claim 18, Boothby teaches “the second dataset and the third dataset are the same dataset” at col. 8, lines 3-33.

22. As per claim 19, Boothby teaches “the second dataset and the fifth dataset are the same dataset” at col. 10, line 66 to col. 11, line 20.

23. As per claim 20, Boothby teaches “if a user of the first dataset attempts to modify the first data item, the system creates a local copy of the first data item in the first dataset and modifies the local copy instead of the first data item in the second dataset” at col. 10, lines 6-20.

24. As per claim 21, Boothby teaches “when the system processes data in the first dataset, the system detects a duplicated inheritance of a data item and avoids processing the data item multiple times” at col. 10, lines 6-38.

25. As per claim 22, Boothby teaches “a synchronizer and an alter-ego dataset, the synchronizer synchronizing, the first dataset with the alter-ego dataset, including the data that is native to the first dataset, the first data item, the second data item, and data from the fifth dataset” at col. 13, lines 57-63.

26. As per claim 24, Boothby teaches “receiving at the first alter-ego dataset a first user change to the alter-ego copy of the first data item” at col. 8, lines 3-21;

“performing a second synchronization between the first dataset and the first alter-ego dataset, including receiving at the first dataset the first user change to the first data item” at col. 8, lines 34-43;

“making a local copy of the first data item in the first dataset” at col. 10, lines 6-20, col. 8, lines 52-56;

“entering the first user change into the local copy of the first data item at the first dataset” at col. 7, lines 1-27.

27. As per claim 25, Boothby teaches “the step of making the local copy of the first data item in the first dataset occurs before the first synchronization between the first dataset and the first alter-ego dataset” at col. 11, lines 21-28.

28. As per claim 26, Boothby teaches “receiving at the first alter-ego dataset a second user change to the alter-ego copy of the first data item” at col. 5, lines 5-37;

“beginning a third synchronization between the first dataset and the first alter-ego dataset” at col. 5, line 56 to col. 6, line 16;

“receiving at the first dataset the second user change to the first data item” at col. 8, lines 3-21;

“detecting a third change to the first data item in the first ancestor dataset” at col. 13, line 64 to col. 14, line 20;

“making a local copy of the first data item in the first dataset” at col. 10, lines 6-20, col. 8, lines 52-56;

“performing a conflict resolution between the second user change to the first data item and the third change to the first data item” at col. 15, lines 5-21;

“completing the third synchronization by entering the second user change into the local copy of the first data item, entering the third change into the local copy of the first data item, and propagating the third change to the first alter-ego dataset, as appropriate, based on the conflict resolution” at col. 22, lines 38-59.

29. As per claim 27, Boothby teaches “receiving at the first dataset a fourth user change to the first data item” at col. 5, lines 25-37;

“making a local copy of the first data item in the first dataset” at col. 10, lines 6-20, col. 8, lines 52-56;

“entering the fourth user change to the first data item into the local copy of the first data item” at col. 7, lines 1-27;

“receiving at the last alter-ego dataset a fifth user change to the alter-ego copy of the first data item” at col. 5, lines 5-37;

“beginning a fourth synchronization between the first dataset and the first alter-ego dataset” at col. 8, lines 34-43;

“receiving at the first dataset the fifth user change to the first data item” at col. 8, lines 3-21;

“performing a conflict resolution between the fourth user change to the first data item and the fifth user change to the first data item” at col. 11, lines 21-28;

“completing the fourth synchronization by entering the fifth user change into the local copy of the first data item, and propagating the fourth user change to the first alter-ego dataset, as appropriate, based on the conflict resolution” at col. 22, lines 38-59.

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30. As per claim 28, Boothby teaches "the step of placing a first pointer in the first dataset, pointing to the first data item in the first ancestor dataset" at col. 6, lines 35-39.

31. As per claim 29, Boothby teaches "the step of displaying a portion of the first dataset to a user. Including the first data item" at col. 5, line 38 to col. 6, line 16.


### Conclusion

32. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

33. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-3203. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene, can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax number to this Art Unit is (703) 746-7238. The TC 2100's Customer Service number is (703) 306-5631.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

  
Miranda Le  
April 18, 2003

  
**GRETA ROBINSON**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**